

Grade 4 - Chapter 16

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Describe the Paschal Mystery as the mystery of Jesus' suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension through which he saved all humans from the power of sin and everlasting death
- Recognize the liturgical year as made up of the feasts and seasons of the Church calendar that celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ

A Time for Everything

Ask: What is the Paschal Mystery?

- List the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Read aloud the first paragraph.

- Tell the children that a poet observed and wrote in the Bible about different times and events in life.

Scripture

Organize the children in two groups, facing one another. Have them proclaim aloud "The Right Time," with the first group reading the first line of the couplet and the other group reading the second line.

- Ask: What message was God giving us in this poem?
- Ask the children if this Scripture passage is familiar.
- Invite the children to share when they have heard this reading. **Possible responses include: at Mass, a wedding, or a funeral**

The Paschal Mystery

Tell the children that they will hear about Jesus' becoming human and experiencing the cycle of human life.

- Read aloud the text.
- Stress the importance of the Mass as a celebration of the Paschal Mystery.

The Liturgical Year

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the text.

- *Ask:* What signs of the present liturgical season do you see?

Work with Words

Invite three volunteers to each read a definition of the Catholic Faith Words, *Ascension, Paschal Mystery, and liturgical year.*

- Distribute index cards and have the children make vocabulary cards for each term.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work independently to write their ideas.
- When everyone has finished, have them discuss their ideas with a partner.

Quick Review

The Paschal Mystery is Jesus' cycle of life, Death, and new life. The Paschal Mystery is celebrated in the Mass and in the seasons of the Church year.

Discover (2)

Objective

- Name the seasons of the Church year as Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Triduum, and Easter

The Church's Seasons

Ask: What are the seasons of the liturgical year?

- Write the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Review the meaning of Paschal Mystery.

- Summarize the first paragraph.
- Tell the children that the meaning of the Paschal Mystery is celebrated each year within the seasons that the Church celebrates.

Advent

Read aloud the text.

- Point out the Advent Season on a calendar.

Christmas

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the text.

- Point out the length of this season.
- *Ask:* How does your family and parish prepare for Christmas during Advent?

Lent

Read aloud the section on Lent.

- Discuss the mood of the Church during the Lenten Season.
- Show the children the dates of Lent on a current calendar.

Triduum

Read aloud this section.

- Ask the children what they should remember during the Triduum.
- Have each child make a vocabulary card for *Triduum*.

Easter

Read aloud this section.

- Point out that this is the second longest season of the Church's year. Only Ordinary Time is longer.

Ordinary Time

Read aloud this section.

- Point out that Ordinary Time takes place in two parts.
- *Ask:* What is the color green a sign of? **hope and growth**

Refer to pages 312–313 in *Our Catholic Tradition* to find out more about the liturgical year.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, “A Circle of Colors” or “Jesus, Come to Us,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work independently to complete the activity.
- Afterward, invite volunteers to share their symbols or phrases with the group.

Quick Review

The seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, and Ordinary Time make up the Church year.

Catechist Tips: Protect Life

Catholics are called to be in harmony with the cycle of life by protecting and preserving God’s creation. The Jubilee Pledge calls all of Jesus’ disciples to “advocate for public policies that protect human life, promote human dignity, preserve God’s creation, and build peace.”

Catechist Tips: Triduum

Describe the Triduum liturgies.

- The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday recalls the first Eucharist.
- The Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday memorializes Jesus' sacrifice and victory on the cross.
- On Saturday, the Easter Vigil begins the celebration of the Resurrection; it culminates on Easter Sunday.

Catechist Tips: Colors

Vestment colors reveal a feast's meaning. Have the children explain the occasions on which these colors are used.

- Green means hope.
- Red represents sacrifice, charity, and the Holy Spirit.
- Rose can mean joy or repentance.
- Violet means sorrow, repentance, and preparation.
- White means purity, victory, and joy.

Glossary Activity: Lectionary

Ask your Director of Religious Education (DRE) to obtain a Lectionary from the church.

- Demonstrate how the readings are organized according to the liturgical year.
- Ask the children to locate the Scripture readings for the current week.

Additional Activity: Illustrate Ecclesiastes

Ask each child illustrate one line from *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*.

- The children may use a variety of artistic media, such as paintings and collage.
- Display the pictures in a public area.

Additional Activity: Christmas Cards

Display some Christmas cards. Point out the art and the message.

- Have the children make cards for the other seasons of the Church year.
- Suggest that the children send the cards to friends or relatives at appropriate times.

Additional Activity: Church Music

Challenge the children to see which Church "tunes" they can name.

- Play sections of Church music from various seasons. A music teacher or minister might help you.
- Ask the children to name each hymn and its season. To aid the children, you may want to supply words.

Additional Activity: Picture Clues

Supplies:

- the name of a season of the Church year or feast day written on slips of paper (one name per slip)
- sheets of chart paper

Say, **Each of you will choose a piece of paper on which I have written the name of a feast day or season of the Church Year.**

You will draw picture clues one at a time on the chart paper, but you may not write any letters or words. We will try to guess what feast or season it is. Your goal is to get us to figure out what it is before the time is up.

Use the egg timer or a clock with a second hand and determine the length of time children have.

To illustrate what you mean, draw clues on the chart paper for "New Year's Eve," perhaps a clock with the hands pointing to midnight, party hats, noise makers, a baby with a diaper, and so on.

Ask for a volunteer. That child will select a piece of paper. (Caution players to not reveal the word.) Then draw one clue at a time on the chart paper, allowing the group to guess before going on to the next clue.

Continue the game until everyone has had a chance to be the illustrator. Be aware of children who might need some suggestions.

Additional Activity: Church Year Mural

Supplies:

- markers, pens, pencils, chalk
- large mural paper

Draw large circles inside of 2 large pieces of paper that children can gather around in two groups. Draw lines within the circle to make it into a puzzle. Lay these pieces of paper out on the floor or on tables with enough space for children to gather around them.

Organize children into two groups. Have each group gather around a large mural sheet of paper with a huge circle filling the whole paper. Hand out markers, pens, and chalk to each group as children find their places on the floor or at the table where their sheets are.

One group will create colors, words, and pictures about Advent and Christmas. Group two will illustrate Lent and Easter with colors, words, and pictures.

When the groups are finished, encourage them to cut the circle along the puzzle lines into puzzle pieces. Then have the group mix them up for the other group to try as a group to put it back together.

Parish Video Connection: The Liturgical Year

Once you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 227, show the children this video that quickly summarizes what they've learned.

YouTube Link: http://youtu.be/otUf_ovML0Q

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